



News

Office of the Fire Chief Timothy M. Butler

645 Randolph Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

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WEEKLY SAINT PAUL FIRE & EMS BLOTTER

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For Immediate Release

This feature we call "Fire & EMS Blotter" is a weekly update of the activities of the Saint Paul Fire Department. During the week of March 26 thru April 1, the Saint Paul Fire Department responded to 711 calls for service. Here is a **sampling** of some of the emergency and non-emergency activities from information provided by the fire department.

MACHINERY FIRE - On March 27 at 1:52 p.m. on the 2200 block of Wabash workers noticed that fire was coming off of a piece of machinery. They shut the machine down and called 9-1-1. The fire started in the area of a bearing in a roller. As the bearing heated, from being seized up, it started the paper dust around it on fire. Damage is estimated at \$2,500.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT - On March 29 at 8:35 p.m. on I-94 & Marion Street to Eastbound I-94 a 38 year old man was the driver of a vehicle that left a bridge over the freeway and landed upside down on another vehicle driven by a 37 year old woman that was merging onto I-94. Paramedics treated and transported both to a nearby hospital.

DWELLING FIRE - On March 30 at 5:45 a.m. on the 1400 block of Van Buren firefighters were called to a report of a house fire. Upon arrival, firefighters found the entire 2nd floor of the 2-story house engulfed in flames. Several college-aged adults were asleep and awakened by the only working smoke alarm in the house. Two occupants escaped by climbing out a 2nd story escape window onto the roof of the front porch from where he jumped to the ground. A 25 year old occupant was rescued by firefighters while doing their primary search. Firefighters and paramedics performed CPR while rushing him to Regions Hospital where he later died. Damage is estimated at \$180,000.



A 25 year old man was killed in this raging house fire early Sunday morning. Six others escaped, some using escape windows.

- **If residential fire sprinklers had been installed in this house when it was built, the fatal fire victim would still be with us today. His parents would still have a son, and maybe have grandchildren someday.**
- **Every new house should be built with residential fire sprinklers. They add less than 1% to the cost of a new home and, when combined with interconnected smoke alarms, give you a greater than 90% chance of surviving a fire.**
- **The new state building code, expected to be effective in the fall, only provides residential fire sprinklers for those people who can afford to build a new home larger than 4,500 square feet – but it's a start.**

CHIMNEY FIRE - On March 30 at 9:07 p.m. on the 2000 block of Parkside Drive fire companies were called to a report of a fire in the wall of a townhome. The owner was burning some scrap wood in his fireplace when he noticed red embers between the fireplace apron and the insert. When he looked outside at the chimney he saw smoke coming from the roof soffits and called 9-1-1. The fireplace and flue were cleaned and inspected two years ago. Damage is estimated at \$33,000.

- **Please burn only dry, natural wood in your fireplace or wood-burning stove. NO TRASH or construction debris.**
- **Have your chimney professionally cleaned regularly to prevent the buildup of flammable creosote inside the chimney.**

FALL - On March 31 at 9:56 a.m. on the 200 block of Atwater Street a 49 year old man fell from a roof and landed on concrete. Paramedics treated and transported him to a nearby hospital.